



Meadville Area Senior High School

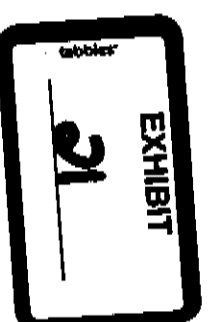
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George H. Deahner
Principal
Dr. Wile Berthelmer
Assistant Principal
Carol A. Templeton
Assistant Principal
J. David Dwyer
Guidance Director
Norma M. Price
Athletic Director

To: Claudette deLeon McCracken
From: Carol A Templeton

Subject: Procedure regarding students assigned to classes

Date: 9/18/97



On 9/18/97 I was informed that Brian McCall has been repeatedly sent out of his Spanish III class to the Library. Brian has indicated to me that he was in the process of dropping Spanish III. He had an appointment with Mrs. Medved today. Unless Brian's situation meets the criterion listed in the student hand book regarding dropping courses (pg. 20 F) he will not be excused from the Spanish III class. Until a determination has been made regarding this subject, Brian is to remain in the class and is expected to participate actively.

Under no circumstances is any teacher permitted to send individual students to a study hall, library, or other area when he/she has been assigned to a given class. Please cooperate with Brian in supplying any missed work or assignments. In the event that a class change is denied, Brian has the right to succeed in Spanish III.



Administrator



Claudette deLeon McCracken

From the Desk of

Carol A. Templeton

Assistant Principal

Meabville Senior High



To:

FYI

☐

Date:

10/10/97

See Me

Personally

☐

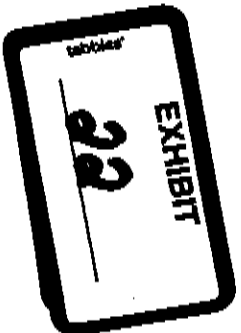
Please

Reply

☐

2:18 Students were coming
from class Mr. Jackson
Room - like told to
return with the ball
sung. He left sing at
2:18

C. Templeton





Meadville Area Senior High School

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George H. Deemer
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Carol A. Templeton
Assistant Principal

J. David Bowser
Guidance Director

Nathan M. Price
Athletic Director

To: Claudette del con McCracken
From: Carol A Templeton
Subject: Meeting
Date: 10/3/97



On 9/30/97 four students came into my office upset because they felt they have been singled out disciplined and in general have been treated unfairly by Mtn. del con McCracken. Other students are treated with favoritism. Since this situation involved the ninth period class at the end of the day, I asked them to document their individual concerns and submit them to me the following day. The next day they also told me that they received teacher detentions that they felt were unfair. As assistant principal it is my position to hear teacher and student complaints and try to mediate problems. It is always my purpose to help teachers with any problems that occur within the class room. The goal of this administrator is to try to determine a solution that is conducive to a learning environment and mutually agreeable to all parties.

I had attempted to cover the student complaints, address your concerns and try to help to determine a solution to the problems during our meeting. However my points could not be adequately addressed due to constant interruptions. I was unable to get my message across. After being accused of being unprofessional (because I was addressing student complaints) I closed the meeting.

The issue regarding the teacher detentions is to be addressed as follows:
You are to follow the correspondence issued on 10/2/97 regarding procedures. Verbal detentions are not acceptable. A copy of these instructions for issuing teacher detentions are attached for your reference.

The issue regarding Class rules. There is nothing wrong with the general rules you have set up however, they are imposed with such inflexible structure that students can't relax and learn in a comfortable environment. The process of assigning detentions for every rule broken, i.e. asking for clarification, requesting a tissue, returning a pencil, creates tension in the class and is not conducive to good class room control. It is my suggestion that the class should be more relaxed. The class is a shared experience and therefore the climate of the class should also be shared. My recommendation is that instead of issuing teacher detentions for every infraction of a rule to instead award points to each infraction. Students will accumulate points toward a teacher detention. Once a minimum number of points have been accumulated then a teacher detention could be initiated. Prior to this a conference should be held between the teacher and student or teacher and parent if this is what it takes to resolve the problem. It is our experience that an over use of teacher detentions lessens the effectiveness of the process. In conclusion you should use some degree of flexibility in working with students.

**Personal Notes:
Meeting 10/3/97**

The meeting began with my instructions to Marlene Goulet as to her role as a building representative. Initially she was not to interrupt the meeting and be an observer. She could take notes. I then tried to explain the student concerns regarding the math period class. Mrs. deLeon McCracken continued to interrupt me with personal interjections regarding the students. Ex:

She initially insisted it was a quiz not a work sheet—changed her mind later to it might have been a worksheet.

She said "I am not picking on them, they are picking on me".

She claimed that the only students causing the disturbance were the students who came to my office. (1/4 of the class)

She said the reason they are disruptive was because the did not have the aptitude for the subject.

She suggested these students should not be in the class, and volunteered two more names whom she thought were involved.

With these constant comments and interruptions I finally Asked her not to respond until I finished the student complaints. I told her she could respond after I completed the complaints. She stopped for a few minutes then began to interrupt again.

We briefly addressed the teacher detentions. I asked to see her Rules". On her detention slips she had written broken Rule # __. She showed it to me telling me that they were approved by Mr. Dehner and waved a stack of signed consent slips saying she also had parent permission. I asked if she had student input in creating the rules. She responded saying that it was her class room and she would decide on the rules. I wanted to explain further about positive discipline and a point system for offenses but at that point the meeting took another turn.

I concluded the meeting when Mrs. deLeon McCracken began pointing her finger at me and making accusatory statements such as: "

"You are unprofessional, you always siting with the students"

(I tried to explain my position as mediator and students rights)

"Mrs. Templetton, YOU know we have this thing between us"

I said "No, would you explain?"

"Because of what has happened in the past I know you are trying to get rid of me. "She was pointing and raising her voice.

(I again denied her accusation.)

At this point the meeting was not addressing the problem and had become a personal attack on me. I think I said " Now you are being unprofessional. I then concluded the meeting.

**Student Meeting #2
Monday, 10/6/97**

I explained to the students that I had met with Mrs. deLeon McCracken and shared some of her comments with them.

The students deny that the material is above their ability level. Two stated that they are A and B students. All said they did well in the Jr. High with Mrs. Kennedy.

They said they weren't learning very much she spends too much time on non-subject material. They said as an example she spent 10 min. one day discussing Paris.

She shows open favoritism.

Assigns different consequences to the same offense.

Directed her Good students to report on her disruptive students if they see them misbehaving.



CRAWFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Instructional Support Center
11280 Mercer Pike
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James C. LaScola, Superintendent

Michael E. Dolecki
Assistant Superintendent
JCL:WHL:mjs
Date of Birth: 10/10/51
Address: 1000 1st St.
Meadville, PA 16335-9504
Phone: (814) 724-3960
Director of Student Services
William E. Sweeney
Director of Athletic Services

October 15, 1997

Mrs. Claudette DeLeon-McCracken
Meadville Area Senior High School
930 North Street
Meadville, PA 16335

Dear Mrs. DeLeon-McCracken:

On the morning of October 15, 1997, I was advised that you engaged in unprofessional conduct when you verbally criticized the School District administration and in addition, discussed your personal legal difficulties in front of your class.

As a result of this behavior, the School District hereby suspends you for a period of 3-1/2 days with pay beginning October 15, 1997.

At the conclusion of the period of suspension, a meeting will be set up between yourself, your union representative, and Mr. James C. LaScola, Superintendent, regarding your return to your classroom duties.

Very truly yours,

CRAWFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: Michael E. Dolecki
Michael E. Dolecki, Assistant Superintendent

